

d.) Remarks

Applicant has canceled claims 41-60 and 65-69, and amended dependent claim 61 to incorporate the features of independent claim 41. Support for the amendments to claim 61 can be found in claim 41 and also throughout the specification. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1-40 and 61-64 are presently pending.

Remarks Regarding 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 41, 42, 44-46, 50-54, 58-60 and 65-69 stand rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), as allegedly anticipated by Varshovi (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0053229). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Claims 41-60 and 65-69 have been canceled and thus this rejection is moot.

Remarks Regarding 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Claims 41-60 and 65-69 stand rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly obvious over Varshovi, Lipert (U.S. Patent No. 5,862,610), Waldman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,284,278 and WO 98/56735), Diping (U.S. Patent No. 5,849,060), Cunningham (U.S. Patent No. 5,340,376) and Berger et al. (DE 41 27 459). Claims 41-60 and 65-69 have been canceled and thus this rejection is moot.

Remarks Regarding Allowed Claims

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1-40 and 61-64. As suggested by the examiner, dependent claim 61 has been amended to incorporate the features of independent claim 41. Thus, claims 61-64 are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The application is in condition for allowance and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any additional fees due with the filing of this Response, including any additional fees for a further extension of time, not herein accounted for,

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applicant respectfully requests that extension and also requests that any and all fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-1952.

Respectfully submitted,
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